



STAINES URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

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# ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

and

Chief Public Health Inspector

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1972

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# STAINES URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

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# STAINES URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

## *Public Health Committee*

Chairman: Councillor C.T. Ridout (died 28.12.72)

Vice-Chairman: Councillor R.V.C. Grace

Councillors R.W. Bragger, J. Caiger, S.C. Duncan, F.J. Rogers,  
Mrs. E.M. Tree, Mrs. M.C. Willis.

## *Staff of the Public Health Department*

### *Medical Officer of Health (part-time):*

H.B. Thompson, M.B., M.R.C.S., D.P.H., M.F.C.M.

### *Deputy Medical Officer of Health (part-time):*

M.M. Lilliot, M.B., B.S., D.P.H., M.F.C.M.

### *Chief Public Health Inspector:*

G.S. Adams, M.A.P.H.I.

### *Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector:*

R.I. Shepherd, F.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

### *Senior Additional Public Health Inspector:*

G.Walton, M.A.P.H.I.

### *Public Health Inspectors:*

C. Jewson

G. Marsland, M.A.P.H.I.

M. Hall, M.A.P.H.I.

### *Technical Assistant:*

A.H. Fuller

### *Rodent Officer:*

A. Fenwick

### *Chief Clerk:*

Miss L.M. Perryman

### *Public Analyst:*

J.A. Palgrave, B.Sc., F.R.I.C.



# **THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE STAINES U.D.C.**

## **ANNUAL REPORT OF THE**

### **MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH**

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour of presenting my Annual Report for the year 1972.

This year closed on a very sad note with the sudden death of our Committee Chairman, Councillor Ridout. He had been Chairman of the Public Health Committee for three years and I am very grateful for all the kindness and help he has given to this Department during this time.

In May the Public Health Department moved from very cramped quarters in the offices in Bridge Street to our spacious offices and good working conditions in the new Council Offices at Knowle Green. We have all benefited considerably from this move.

During the year the health of the district has remained good with no major outbreaks of infectious disease, although by the end of the year the current measles epidemic was beginning to make itself felt, mainly affecting those children who had not received protection from measles vaccination.

The birth rate in the Staines area is just below the national rate — there were 853 live births during the year. Last year the Neonatal Mortality Rate was higher than usual, but I am glad to report that this year the pendulum has swung the other way, and all the Infant Mortality Statistics are low. These swings are due to the relatively small numbers involved and do not denote any major change from the gradual downward trend of recent years.

The two main causes of death under 60 years of age in Staines in 1972 were ischaemic heart disease in men and cancer of the breast in women, and in both these cases the public can help themselves to some extent. In the case of coronary thrombosis my advice to the men is — avoid overweight, cut out smoking, take plenty of exercise and reduce animal fat and butter in the diet. My advice to the women is to report to the doctor at once if they find a lump in the breast, especially if it is painless, and attend the well-women clinic regularly for the smear test and breast examination ('phone Ashford 56341 for information about the nearest clinic). Early treatment gives relief of anxiety and a good chance of cure.

After long and careful debates it was agreed that when the opportunity arose the Council was in favour of fluoridation of the water supply for the area. This would certainly benefit the teeth of the children and probably strengthen the bones of the older members of the community, and I hope that these benefits will not be too long denied to the people of this district.

During the year the Housing Committee introduced a new method for assessing priority groups for rehousing. This points scheme is designed to give priority for those in greatest need because of poor conditions, overcrowding, etc. but it also gives me the opportunity to assess, and discuss with the Housing Manager, those people with disabling medical conditions so that they may be suitably rehoused when they reach the top of the list.

Two outbreaks of suspected food poisoning were investigated by the Public Health Inspectors, but although a considerable number of people were involved, no causative organisms were isolated in either case in spite of the very careful investigations that were undertaken by the department.

Prophylactic vaccination against rabies has been offered to all those people in contact with animals in quarantine against rabies. This includes veterinary surgeons, workers in the kennels and those involved in the transport of the animals to these kennels. There were two quarantine kennels in the area, one of which has since moved away, and the staff have been offered this vaccination and their response has been excellent.

At least 19 of the 27 accidental deaths registered in this area during 1972 were due to road accidents but not all of them were residents of the area. It is a figure which denotes only the tip of the iceberg of injury and unhappiness that is caused by road accidents every year. The wearing of seat belts by drivers and passengers would help to cut down these injuries; also, much more care should be taken by pedestrians when crossing roads. I hope that the Regulation requiring motor-cyclists to wear crash helmets will improve their chances of survival considerably.

This will probably be my last report to you as Medical Officer of Health for Staines U.D.C. On April 1st 1974 the new District of Spelthorne will come into being and on the same date the National Health Service is being reorganised to provide a more co-ordinated service for the patient and a unified management structure. Doctors now employed by Local Authorities will be transferred to the National Health Service, but there will be very close collaboration between the Local Authority and the Health Service to maintain the high standards of health in the district.

I would like to thank Dr. Lilliott, Mr. Adams and all the Inspectors for their co-operation and consistently hard work during the year, ably backed at all times by Miss Perryman and her staff in the office. I would also like to record my appreciation of the goodwill and helpfulness of all the Members and Officers of the Council during my time as Medical Officer of Health.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,  
Your obedient servant,  
H.B. Thompson



## General Statistics

Area — 8,271 acres

Population Census (Estimated mid 1972) ... ..	56,730
Number of houses, bungalows and flats at 1.4.72 ... ..	18,597
Rateable value at 1.4.72 ... ..	£4,703,996
Sum represented by a penny rate at 1st April, 1972 ... ..	£47,000

## Vital Statistics

<i>Live Births</i>				<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>	
Legitimate	...	...	...	425	405	830	
Illegitimate	...	...	...	14	9	23	
				<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	
				439	414	853	
Live Birth Rate (per thousand population)				...	...	...	15.0
Comparability factor is 0.96 giving adjusted birth rate of						...	14.4
Birth Rate England and Wales				...	...	...	14.8
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births				...	...	...	3.0
<i>Still Births</i>				<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>	
Legitimate	...	...	...	2	2	4	
Illegitimate	...	...	...	—	1	1	
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 Live and Still Births				...	...	...	6
Still Birth Rate England and Wales				...	...	...	12
<i>Total Live and Still Births</i>				...	...	...	858
<i>Deaths</i>				Male	Female		
	...	...	...	...	...	...	263
	Female	...	...	...	...	...	239
						<hr/>	
						502	
Death Rate (per thousand population)				...	...	...	8.8
Comparability factor is 1.31, giving adjusted death rate of						...	11.5
Death Rate England and Wales				...	...	...	12.1
Infant Deaths (deaths under one year)				...	...	...	9
Infant Mortality Rates							
Total infant deaths per 1000 total live births							11
Legitimate infant deaths per 1000 legitimate live births				...	...	...	11
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1000 illegitimate live births						...	—
Infant mortality rate England & Wales				...	...	...	17
Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under four weeks per 1000 total live births)				...	...	...	6
Early Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under one week per 1000 total live births).				...	...	...	4
Perinatal Mortality Rate (stillbirths and deaths under one week combined per 1000 total live and still births).				...	...	...	9
Maternal Mortality (including abortion)							
Number of deaths				...	...	...	—
Rate per 1000 total live and still births				...	...	...	—

# INFANT DEATHS

## Under 1 Month

	Under 1 day		1–6 days		1 week		2 weeks		3 weeks		Total under 1 month	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Congenital Abnormalities	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	–	–	–	1
Prematurity	1	–	–	1	–	–	1	–	–	–	2	1
Aspiration Pneumonia	–	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1
	1	1	–	1	–	–	1	1	–	–	2	3

## 1 Month and Under 1 Year

	1–2 months		3–5 months		6–8 months		9–11 months		Total 1 month and under 1 year	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Congenital Abnormalities	–	–	–	–	–	1	–	–	–	1
Acute Haemorrhagic Pneumonitis	1	–	–	–	1	1	–	–	2	1
	1	–	–	–	1	2	–	–	2	2
TOTAL INFANT DEATHS ALL AGES									4	5



## Causes of Death, 1972

									<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>
Enterities and other Diarrhoeal Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	1
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	—
Syphilis and its Sequelae	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Buccal Cavity, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	—
Malignant Neoplasm, Oesophagus	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	2
Malignant Neoplasm, Intestine	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	8
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	23	5
Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	24
Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	3
Malignant Neoplasm, Prostate	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	—
Leukaemia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1
Other malignant Neoplasms	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13	12
Benign and Unspecified Neoplasms	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Diabetes Mellitus	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	2
Other Endocrine etc. diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	—
Mental Disorders	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	—
Multiple Sclerosis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	1
Other diseases of nervous system	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	—
Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	11
Hypertensive disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	3
Ischaemic Heart Disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	76	44
Other forms of Heart Disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	7
Cerebrovascular disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	24	43
Other Diseases of Circulatory system	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12	13
Influenza	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	4
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	18	15
Bronchitis and Emphysema	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	29	3
Asthma	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2
Peptic Ulcer	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	2
Intestinal Obstruction and Hernia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	5
Cirrhosis of Liver	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	1
Other Diseases of Digestic system	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	3
Nephritis and Nephrosis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	—
Other Diseases, Genito-Urinary System	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	1
Diseases of Musculo-Skeletal System	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2
Congenital Anomalies	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	6
Birth Injury, Difficult Labour etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Other causes of perinatal mortality	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	—
Symptoms and ill defined conditions	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	3
Motor Vehicle Accidents	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	4
All other accidents	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	2
Suicide and self-inflicted injuries	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	—
TOTAL ALL CAUSES									263	239

## NOTIFIABLE DISEASES OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS

	Under 1 yr.	1 yr.	2 yrs.	3 yrs.	4 yrs.	5-9 yrs.	10-14 yrs.	15-24 yrs.	25 & over	Age un- known	Total
Scarlet Fever	—	—	—	—	1	6	2	—	1	—	10
Whooping Cough	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	2
Measles	2	12	8	6	12	36	1	1	—	—	78
Infective Jaundice	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	2	4	—	9
Acute Meningitis	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	3
Food Poisoning	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	58	59
Dysentery	—	1	1	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	4
Acute Encephalitis	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	2

## TUBERCULOSIS

<u>1-4</u>				NOTIFICATIONS				DEATHS			
				Pulm.		Non-Pulm		Pulm.		Non-Pulm	
				M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0- 1	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2- 4	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5-14	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15-24	...	...	...	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
25-34	...	...	...	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
35-44	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45-54	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55-64	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65-74	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
75-84	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
				1	2	—	1	2	—	—	—



# THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE STAINES U.D.C.

## ANNUAL REPORT OF THE

### CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is with pleasure that I present my second Annual Report to the Council. Last year I referred to the sweeping changes of staff in the Department, by contrast in 1972 we had a year of complete stability. This has allowed improvements in our services to the community.

We carried through a programme of Food Hygiene education which was principally directed to commercial food handlers, some 250 personnel from basic grades to management levels attended. This was later extended to kitchen staff from Ashford Hospital, to housewives and to schools. Arrangements have been made for continuing the programme in 1973. At the same time we have increased the number of visits to substandard food premises and the inspection of itinerant food vendors. It has been necessary to make several prosecutions but generally we have had co-operation. I think the approach is about right, education with firm enforcement action when this fails.

As members will recall, it was decided to press for the open date marking of food and the Government's decision to introduce this measure is to be welcomed; it will assist us all I am sure to reduce the number of cases of stale or unfit food.

We moved into our new airport office in the Management Building at the beginning of the year. The situation of this office is more in keeping with our role on the Airport and has resulted in improved liaison with Customs. The new system of clearance of food imports at the Cargo Terminal continues to run smoothly and there was a further small increase in the quantity of food imported to 17,542 tonnes. The food is generally of high quality but some 5 tonnes were surrendered or condemned as unfit. We have been involved with the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food in discussions on quality control arising from our entry into the Common Market and we are in correspondence with several European countries and companies on matters of common concern.

Last year I referred to the problem of the houses in the area which lacked basic amenities (1400) and looked forward to its elimination in some 6 – 7 years. The number of applications for Standard Grant has dropped, but applications for Discretionary Grant have increased. This is to be welcomed as the standard achieved in the latter case is much higher. At the same time the number of cases where work has been completed has risen from 50 to 85 and grants paid from £7,086 to £15,602. Allowing for cases where the standard amenities have been supplied without grant, including Qualification Certificate cases, the total number of properties lacking one or more of the basic amenities is now reduced to 1,192, so we are well on target. An



improvement brochure was produced during the year and has proved popular. This brochure contains all the basic advice and guidance which is necessary for owners and owner/occupiers of property to decide whether or not to apply for grant. At the same time advice is freely available from the Public Health Inspectors. The number of tenants making representation under Section 19 of the Housing Act 1964, i.e. that their house lacks one or more of the standard amenities, is rising steadily as more tenants become aware of their rights.

The last Smoke Control area, No. 12, came into operation on the 1st June, 1972; with the passing of the grosser and more obvious pollution, attention is now focused on the largely invisible pollutants from industry, aircraft and traffic. At the year end a proposal was under consideration for a study of air pollution to be carried out by Imperial College using advanced methods of gas chromatography and mass spectrometry. This study would be directed particularly to aircraft but a great deal of information will be obtained on industrial and traffic pollution as the methods proposed allow linkage with source. The cost of equipment alone to be used in this survey is in excess of £50,000, the cost to the Council will be £3,000. As the study of pollution becomes more and more sophisticated there are obvious advantages in developing University links.

The problem of noise from aircraft and the Cargo Terminal is still with us and constructive representations have been made to the Department of Trade and Industry, the Department of the Environment and the British Airports Authority. A new Noise Insulation Scheme was introduced in September but there is considerable scope for further improvements.

Local Government re-organisation is now gathering momentum and it is known that virtually all the duties at present carried out by my Department will continue as the responsibility of the District Council. The control of the local environment will be a major function of the District Council and I hope, therefore, that we shall be able to expand further our services to the new community.

The year was marred at its close by the sad death of Councillor Cyril Ridout, who had been Chairman of the Health Committee for several years. He had a great interest in the Department's work and a wide knowledge of the area, we miss his friendly advice.

In conclusion I would again like to thank the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee for their support, the Clerk and the other Chief Officers for their help and my staff for their hard work.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,  
Your obedient servant,

G.S. Adams.

## Summary of Inspections

Public Health or Housing Acts	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	778
Refuse and dustbins	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	158
Improvement Grants	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	494
Qualification Certificates	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	470
Overcrowding	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Food and Drugs Act Sampling	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	158
Labelling of Food Orders	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	338
Food Premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1212
Food Hawkers, Stalls and Delivery Vehicles	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	199
Food Poisoning Investigations	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	44
Food Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	357
London Airport Cargo Terminal	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1403
Pet Animals Act, Riding Establishments Act, Animal Boarding Establishment Act	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
Factories Act, 1961	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	582
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	864
Clean Air Acts	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	240
Rodent Control (inspections and survey)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1736
Pest Control	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	85
Keeping of Animals	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	47
Infectious Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	51
Offensive Trades	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	114
Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	81
Drainage Works	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	168
Public Conveniences	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	22
Pollution of streams	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	59
Refuse tips	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	63
Hairdressers (Bye-laws)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	28
London (Heathrow) Airport, Sound-Proofing Scheme	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1691
Noise Abatement	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	188
Schools	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	14
Water supply and swimming baths	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	54
Diseases of Animals (Waste Food Order) 1957	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	24
Public Entertainment and Licensing	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	562
								12,314

## Number of Notices Served

							<i>Informal</i>	<i>Formal</i>
Public Health Act, 1936	...	...	...	...	...	...	165	12
Food and Drugs Act, 1955	...	...	...	...	...	...	140	—
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963	...	...	...	...	...	...	132	—
Clean Air Act, 1956	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	2
Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949, S.4	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	1
							437	15

## **Legal Proceedings**

The occupiers of a farm in the area were fined £50 with £5 costs for failure to comply with a nuisance order of the Court arising from an abatement notice of the Council requiring the removal of manure and sewage from the land.

A Nuisance Order against a local firm was made under Section 94 of the Public Health Act 1936 requiring them to carry out works of repair referred to in an abatement notice on a house in Ashford. The Court made an Order for £10 costs.

All the works required were completed.

## **Complaints**

Complaints by the public cover a wide range of subjects and during the year 904 complaints were dealt with.



**Housing Act, 1957**  
**UNFIT HOUSES BEYOND REPAIR**  
*Details of houses dealt with during 1972*

Closing Orders made	Section 17	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Demolition Orders made	Section 18	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Houses demolished following	Demolition Orders..	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Parts of Building Closed	Section 18	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Number of persons displaced	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16
Number of families displaced	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4

**CLEARANCE AREAS**

Number of Clearance Areas represented	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Number of unfit houses included in Areas...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Number of persons to be displaced	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Number of houses demolished by Local Authority or Owners:—								
(a) Unfit	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
(b) Others	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Number of persons displaced	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Number of families displaced	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—

**NUMBER OF HOUSES RENDERED FIT AFTER SERVICE OF NOTICES**

		Housing Act, 1957		Public Health		Totals	
		Sec. 9. 10. 16.		Acts			
		<i>Informal</i>	<i>Formal</i>	<i>Informal</i>	<i>Formal</i>	<i>Informal</i>	<i>Formal</i>
By Owner	...	—	1	85	16	85	17

**Housing Act, 1969**  
**IMPROVEMENT GRANTS**

The number of applications for standard grants fell but for discretionary grant rose. Improvement works completed rose under both headings.

**Standard Grants**

No. of applications approved	...	...	...	...	...	...	18
No. of dwellings improved	...	...	...	...	...	...	57
Total amount paid in grants	...	...	...	...	...	...	£5,050
Average Grant per dwelling	...	...	...	...	...	...	£89

**Discretionary Grants**

No. of applications received	...	...	...	...	...	...	52
No. of applications approved	...	...	...	...	...	...	43
Amount of Grant approved	...	...	...	...	...	...	£23,671
Grants paid	...	...	...	...	...	...	£10,552
No. of dwellings improved and dwellings provided by conversion							28

## Housing Act 1969/Housing Finance Act 1972

### QUALIFICATION CERTIFICATES

#### Improvement Cases

No. of certificates of provisional approval issued	...	...	...	10
No. of qualification certificates issued	...	...	...	50

#### Standard Amenities Already Provided

No. of qualification certificates issued	...	...	...	...	50
Five applications for qualification certificates were refused on the grounds that the dwellings did not have the prescribed amenities.					

### Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960

The following caravan sites are licensed:

						<i>Residential</i>	<i>Holiday</i>
Land at Penton Hook, Staines	...	...	...	...	22	—	
Harris' Boatyard, Laleham	...	...	...	...	6	18	
Caretaker Sites, etc.	...	...	...	...	10	—	

The Council has provided a holiday caravan and camping site at Laleham on the banks of the River Thames. This site is open from May to September each year and is under the control of the Camping Club of Great Britain.

In addition there are four sites in Ashford which come under the control of the Showmen's Guild and which are therefore exempted from the requirements of this Act.

During the year we have had several caravans sited illegally in the area. It is, however, very difficult to deal with illegal sitings in the light of the Caravan Sites Act 1968, and we look forward to the provision of an official site by the County Council.

## Water

Most of the area is supplied with mains water by the South West Suburban Water Company. The Company's works are situated on the River Thames near Staines and the raw water is taken from the Thames and pumped direct to mains after rapid filtration and purification. 531 dwellings in the Colnbrook area are supplied by the Middle Thames Water Board and 69 dwellings near Chertsey Bridge on the river Thames are on the Woking and District Water Company's mains.

All the dwellings in the area are provided with pipe supplies direct to the dwellings and there are no dwellings on stand pipe supply. It was not found necessary to take action on any form of contamination of the mains water and the supply continues to be satisfactory in quality and in quantity.

Frequent and regular chemical and bacteriological samples of the raw and treated water are taken by the water undertakers and check samples are taken from time to time by this department. All the samples have been satisfactory and none of the water contains added fluoride. The fluoride content of the South West Suburban Water Company water and the Woking and District Water Company's water is normally 0.15 and 0.2 parts per million of fluoride respectively. The water supplied to the Colnbrook area is from several sources and ranges from zero to 0.75 parts per million of fluoride.

A report on the pros and cons of fluoridation was presented to you when you decided in favour of fluoridation of the water supplies in this area. Agreement of all the local authorities supplied by these water boards is still awaited on the question of adding fluoride to the water.

## Sewerage

The area has an adequate sewerage system. The sewage is treated at the Mogden works of the Greater London Council. There are, however, 215 premises where the drainage discharges to a cesspool.



## INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

								<i>No. of Premises</i>	<i>No. of Inspections</i>
Bakehouses ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	8
Bakers and Confectioners	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12	71
Butchers ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	22	147
Milk Distribution Depots	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	10
Food and Drink Manufacturers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	46
Fishmongers and Fish Fryers ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10	71
Food Stalls	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	100
Grocers ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	42	89
Greengrocers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	25	71
Public Houses, Clubs and Off Licences	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	57	109
Restaurants, Cafes and Snack Bars	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	43	210
School Kitchens and Serveries...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	22	22
London Airport Cargo Terminal	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	14	1403
Wholesalers ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	3
Canteens ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12	45
Supermarkets	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	15	187
Sweets and Confectionery	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	37	96
General dealers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	27
								<u>330</u>	<u>2715</u>

### Unsound Food Surrendered or Condemned

								<i>Tons Cwts. Lbs.</i>		
Meat at retail shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	5	99
Cooked meat and meat products	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	32
Canned meats	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	1	62
Other canned foods ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	9	24
Fish ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	1	105
Fruit and vegetables	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	3	60
Other foods...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	29
Frozen foods	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	—	66
								<u>Total</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>3 29</u>

## London Airport Cargo Terminal Imported Food Regulations, 1968

1403 visits were made to the Cargo Terminal to inspect imported foods. The total weight of food examined was 17,542 tonnes. Details of foods surrendered or condemned as unfit are appended.

								<i>Tons Cwts. Lbs.</i>
Fruit and Vegetables	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	37 9 50
Meat ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	— 2 —
Other foods	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1 12 —
Total								<u>38 21 50</u>

### Foods and Drugs Administration

Samples of Foods and Drugs submitted to the Public Analyst for examination.

	<i>Number of Samples</i>		<i>Unsatisfactory Reports</i>	<i>Legal Proceedings</i>	<i>Convictions</i>	
	<i>Formal</i>	<i>Informal</i>	<i>Analysis</i>	<i>Labelling</i>	<i>Instituted</i>	<i>Secured</i>
Food	3	89	6	4	2	2
Drugs	—	4	—	—	—	—

### Labelling of Food Orders

Seven samples of foods were reported by the Public Analyst as not conforming to the Orders dealing with labelling and description of food. These included Steak and Kidney Stew (3), Fruit Cocktail in Syrup, cheese (2) and dried yeast.

These infringements were taken up with the manufacturer or importer of the product resulting in satisfactory arrangements being made for labels or descriptions to be altered to conform to the legal requirements of the product.

In addition samples of Keim Kost (cereal), lemon curd and carrot tablets were found to be not of the quality expected. Arrangements were made for all remaining stocks of these products to be withdrawn from sale.

### Bacteriological Sampling

Samples of cooked sirloin from a school kitchen, pasteurised milk, double cream and various cream confectionery, were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for bacteriological examination. All proved to be satisfactory.

## **Sampling of Foods Imported Through London Airport Cargo Terminal (Bacteriological)**

85 samples of meat products, smoked turkey breasts, snails and other foods were submitted for detailed bacteriological examination to the Central Public Health Laboratory at Colindale.

I indicated in my previous year's report that further attention would be given to importations of salami and pate in view of the high plate counts found in some cases. 36 samples of various pates were submitted for bacteriological examination, 14 of which had high plate counts. Although there is international disagreement on the significance of such findings in these products, the matter of improvement of the bacteriological quality of the pates was taken up with the manufacturers through their importers with the result that subsequent samples showed a substantial improvement in quality.

3 samples of smoked turkey breasts from Israel were also found to have high plate counts. This, too, was taken up with the importers and subsequent samples proved to be satisfactory.

15 samples of various salami sausages were likewise examined and were all satisfactory.

In no case were organisms of the salmonella or dysentery groups or Coagulase-positive staphylococci found.

One sample of live snails imported from Cyprus was found to be contaminated with *Salmonella deversoir*. The consignment from which this sample was taken was surrendered by the importer and destroyed.

The results of the remaining samples were all satisfactory.

### **Chemical**

1 sample of cheese from France was submitted to the Public Analyst when it was confirmed that the labelling was not in accordance with the Cheese Regulations, 1970. Arrangements were made for appropriate labelling to be adopted.

2 samples of salami from France were submitted to the Public Analyst for examination and gave a satisfactory analysis.

### **Brucellosis**

Milk is supplied to the area by large dairies distributing milk in the Home Counties. Most of this milk is pasteurised and any milk produced on dairy farms within the district is sent to the dairies for pasteurisation.

No samples were taken for *brucella abortus*.



## Legal Cases

1. The proprietors of a health store were fined £20 and £4 costs for the sale of a packet of cereal which was infested with moth larvae.
2. A local departmental store was fined £20 and ordered to pay £5 costs for the sale of a packet of "Porage Oats" infested with saw-toothed grain beetles.
3. A bus services firm operating a canteen at its premises was fined £25 for selling mouldy pork pies, £20 for selling mouldy chicken and rice curry and £10 on each of the two charges under the Labelling of Food Order; £5 costs were awarded to the Council.
4. The contents of a packet of chocolate eclairs sold by a supermarket were found on opening to be stale and mouldy. The fault was proved to lie with the manufacturers, who were fined £30 and ordered to pay £5 costs.
5. A firm of bakers was fined £15 and ordered to pay £4 costs for the manufacture of a loaf of bread with foreign matter embedded in it. The foreign matter consisted of dough which had been contaminated with lubricating oil.
6. A dairy firm was fined £20 and ordered to pay £5 costs for delivering a bottle of milk with a foreign body, i.e. a plastic toy soldier, floating in it.
7. The driver of a vehicle used for the sale of ice-cream was prosecuted for contraventions of the Food Hygiene (Markets, Stalls and Delivery Vehicles) Regulations 1969 and under the Middlesex County Council Act 1950, for failing to be registered as a hawker of food stuffs, for not displaying his name and address on the vehicle and for having a vehicle in a dirty condition. He was fined a total of £49 and ordered to pay £10 costs.
8. An ice-cream manufacturing firm was using premises in Staines for the storage of ice-cream without being registered for this purpose under the Food & Drugs Act 1955. The company was fined £60 and ordered to pay £10 costs for this offence.
9. The two attendants operating a fruit and vegetable stall in the High Street, Staines were each fined £20 and ordered to pay £2.50 costs for smoking whilst trading and for not wearing suitable overclothing in contravention of the Food Hygiene (Markets, Stalls and Delivery Vehicles) Regulations 1966.
10. A butcher was fined a total of £55 and £10 costs after pleading guilty to 10 summonses concerning insanitary conditions at his shop. The summonses included contraventions of the Offices Shops and Railway Premises Act 1963 in not providing proper facilities for the outer clothing of his employees.
11. A greengrocer was fined £20 and ordered to pay £3 costs for trading in premises which showed a poor standard of cleanliness and had unsuitable food storage arrangements.

## Milk (Special Designation) Regulations 1963 (as amended)

The number of dealers in the area licensed under these Regulations is 35.

Number of dealers authorised to sell:

Pre-packed pasteurised milk	31
Pre-packed sterilised milk	12
Pre-packed ultra heat treated milk	17
Pre-packed untreated milk	4

1 sample of milk (pasteurised) sent for bacteriological examination was satisfactory.

## Poultry Processing Establishments and Slaughterhouses

There are no poultry processing premises or slaughterhouses within the district.

## Clean Air Acts 1956/1968

Smoke Control Order No. 12 came into operation on 1st June, 1972, completing the inclusion of the whole of the area of Staines U.D. in smoke control areas.

## Smoke Control Areas

				<i>Date of operation</i>	<i>No. of dwellings</i>	<i>Acreage covered</i>
No. 1	...	...	...	1.12.60	2,495	1,824
No. 2	...	...	...	1.12.62	878	2,990
No. 3	...	...	...	1.6.63	1,415	518
No. 4	...	...	...	1.7.64	424	126
No. 5	...	...	...	1.7.65	1,703	341
No. 6	...	...	...	1.6.66	2,500	408
No. 7	...	...	...	1.7.67	1,020	157
No. 8	...	...	...	1.6.68	1,218	140
No. 9	...	...	...	1.6.69	1,467	247
No. 10	...	...	...	1.6.70	1,722	500
No. 11	...	...	...	1.6.71	1,450	266
No. 12	...	...	...	1.6.72	387	754
					<hr/> 16,679	<hr/> 8,271

The total number of dwellings included in smoke control areas is less than the present number of dwellings in the whole of the district because the smoke control areas started 13 years ago, and the figures shown for each year were the dwellings in the area at the time of declaration. New dwellings are of course subject to the Smoke Control Orders.



## **Clean Air Act, 1968, S.9.**

### **Sale of unauthorised fuels.**

No. of contraventions	2
Successful prosecutions	1

### **Industrial Smoke**

Dark smoke — number of contraventions	—
Notice of installation of furnaces	2

### **Height of chimneys**

Number of plans showing new chimneys	5
Number approved	5

## **Refuse Collection and Disposal**

Weekly collections have been maintained and there were few complaints during 1972. Disposal of refuse continues to the Charlton Plant, which is under the control of the Greater London Council.

The incinerator was closed in July and refuse is being tipped pending conversion to a transfer station.

## **Surrey County Council Act, 1931**

### **Deposit of Refuse**

Section 94 of this Act provides powers to control the deposit of refuse on land within the Council's area. Seven consents have been issued; these are all for the back filling of wet gravel pits, under conditions laid down in the consent. Five of these sites are currently in use. Deposit of domestic refuse and harmful substances is prohibited.

## **Noise Abatement Act, 1960**

Twenty-nine complaints of noise nuisance were received during the year, fourteen in respect of industrial premises, seven commercial premises, three construction works and five domestic premises. In sixteen cases noise nuisance was established and in fourteen cases the nuisance was abated after action by my Department. In the remaining two cases some improvement was obtained.

## **Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963**

### **Report on Inspections Carried out during the year 1972**

#### **1. Registration and Inspections**

The number of premises newly registered during the year and the total number at the end of the year show an increase on those



registered in 1971. There was a small reduction in the number of retail shops.

## **2. Operation of the General Provisions of the Act**

Standards generally, in this area of high employment, are reasonably good and continue to improve. Various contraventions noted during the year continue to be dealt with satisfactorily by preliminary notices and advice to those concerned. The greater number of contraventions were found at premises being registered for the first time.

Cases of employees removing plastic guards to gravity fed meat-slicing machines were noted and appropriate steps to discourage this practice are taken.

Some larger offices are found to suffer from occasional inadequacy in routine cleaning by contractors and the standard of cleanliness in some shops is found to be lower in the rooms to which the public does not have access.

Obstructions to passages and stairs were noted in retail shop premises, at peak trading times, Christmas, Easter, due to inadequate storage accommodation.

## **3. Accidents**

Thirty-one accidents were reported, none of which was fatal. Most of the accidents occurred at warehouses and nine of these involved back injuries. Often the person concerned had been lifting a load of less than 50 lbs when the injury occurred. The need for further publicity on the care to be taken in lifting loads is indicated.

## **4. Prosecutions**

There were two prosecutions under the Act during 1972.

## **5. Complaints from Staff**

No complaints were received from staff covered by the Act.

## **6. Specific Instances of Good and Bad Standards**

Modern office accommodation provided by Airlines at the London Airport Cargo Terminal, United Glass Ltd. and Eurocoustic (U.K.) Ltd. demonstrate good standards, above the average, in the observance by employers of their responsibility under the Act. Photographs of the layout of typical offices of the British European Airlines are shown on page 24. Specific instances of bad standards are —

- (a) a petrol service station registered for the first time and found on first inspection to have a dilapidated external W.C. compartment with no artificial lighting;
- (b) the staff of a grocery store, sharing sanitary accommodation with and in an adjoining department of the same company,

being deprived of access to such sanitary accommodation on one half-day per week due to the introduction of different half-day holidays for each department.

**7. Section 22 – Dangerous Conditions and Practices**

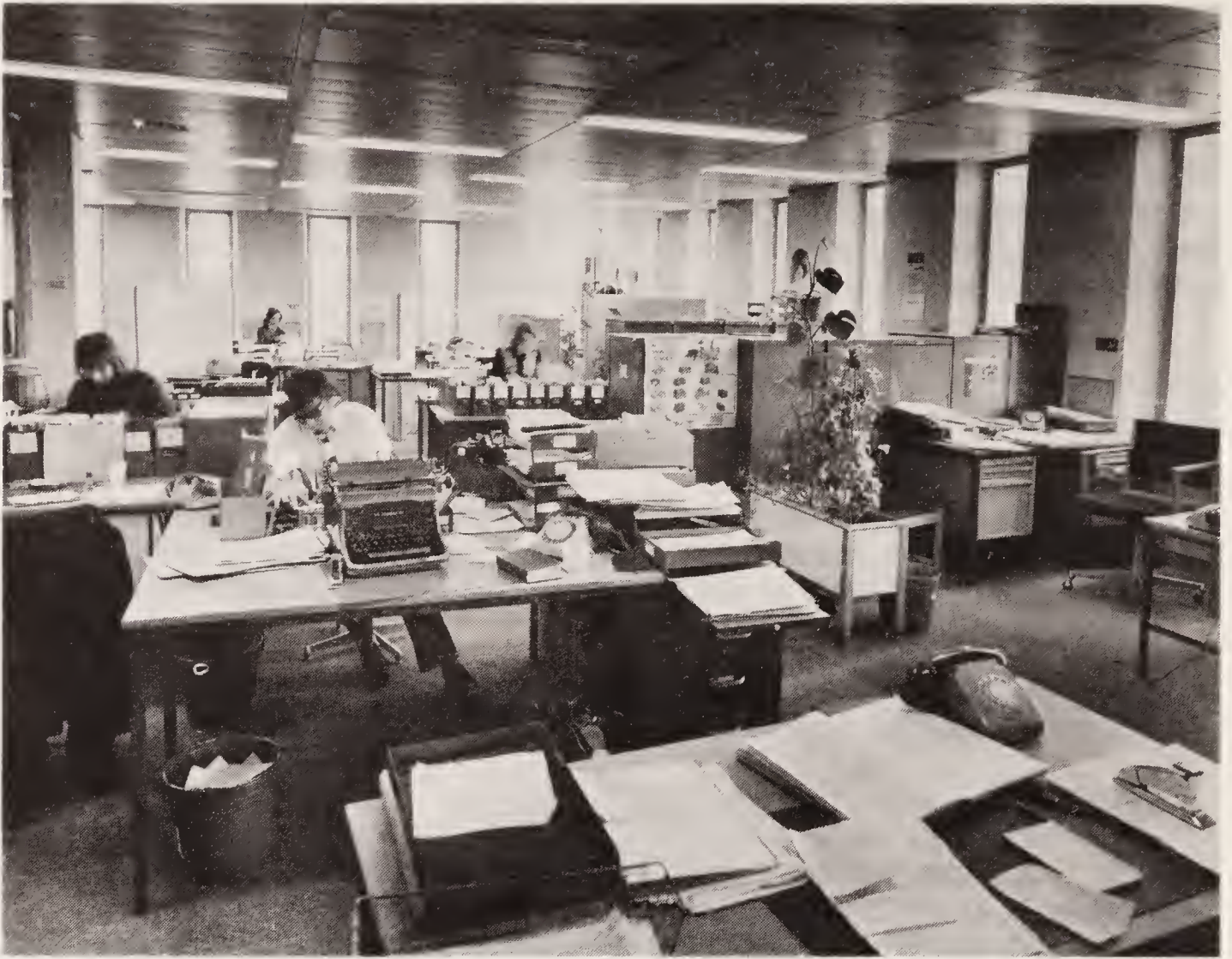
No instances requiring action under this Section were found necessary during the year.

**Registration and General Inspections**

	<i>Number of premises registered during the year</i>	<i>Number of registered premises at end of year</i>	<i>Number of registered premises receiving a general inspection</i>
Offices ... ..	22	301	276
Retail Shops ... ..	18	311	311
Wholesale Shops, Warehouses ...	1	8	8
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens... ..	8	40	40
Fuel storage depots ... ..	—	—	—
<b>Totals:</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>660</b>	<b>635</b>

**TOTAL NUMBER OF INSPECTIONS – 864**







## Analysis of Contraventions

<i>Section.</i>	<i>Number of Contraventions found</i>	<i>Section.</i>	<i>Number of Contraventions found</i>
4	Cleanliness 91	16	Floors, passages and stairs 34
5	Overcrowding 1	17	Fencing exposed parts machinery 11
6	Temperature 7	18	Protection of young persons from dangerous machinery —
7	Ventilation 18	19	Training of young persons at dangerous machinery 2
8	Lighting 11	20	Hoists & Lifts Regulations 1
9	Sanitary Conveniences 47	23	Prohibition of heavy work 1
10	Washing Facilities 54	24	First Aid General provisions 47
11	Supply of Drinking Water 15	50	Information for Employees, etc. 84
12	Clothing Accommodation 19		
13	Sitting facilities —		
14	Seats (Sedentary Workers) —		
15	Eating Facilities —		
			<b>Total 443</b>

## Reported Accidents

<i>Workplace</i>	<i>Number Reported</i>	<i>Total No. Investigated</i>	<i>Action Recommended</i>			<i>No Action</i>
			<i>Prosecu- tion</i>	<i>Formal Warning</i>	<i>Informal Advice</i>	
Offices	3	2	—	—	1	2
Retail Shops	10	10	—	—	—	10
Wholesale Shops, Warehouses	16	12	—	—	—	16
Catering Establish- ments open to public, Canteens	2	2	—	—	—	2
Fuel Storage Depots	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	31	26	—	—	1	30

## Analysis of reported accidents

	<i>Offices</i>	<i>Retail Shops</i>	<i>Wholesale Warehouses</i>	<i>Catering establishments open to public, canteens</i>	<i>Fuel Storage Depots</i>
Machinery	—	3	3	—	—
Transport	—	—	2	—	—
Falls of persons	1	1	2	2	—
Stepping on or striking against object or person	—	—	1	—	—
Handling goods	2	4	8	—	—
Struck by falling object	—	1	—	—	—
Fires and Explosions	—	—	—	—	—
Electricity	—	—	—	—	—
Use of hand tools	—	1	—	—	—
Not otherwise specified	—	1	—	—	—

## Factories Act, 1961

### 1 — INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health

<i>Premises</i>	<i>Number on Register</i>	<i>Number of</i>		
		<i>Inspections</i>	<i>Written Notices</i>	<i>Occupiers prosecuted</i>
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ...	—	2	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ...	323	574	6	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	6	6	—	—
TOTAL ...	329	582	6	—

## 2 — Cases in which DEFECTS were found

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1.)... ..	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3) ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4) ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient ...	—		—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	14	13		1	
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	14	13	—	1	—

## OUTWORK

<i>Nature of Work</i>	<i>Section 133</i>			<i>Section 134</i>		
	<i>No. of out-workers in August list required by Section 133 (1) (c)</i>	<i>No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council</i>	<i>No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists</i>	<i>No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises</i>	<i>Notices served</i>	<i>Prosecutions</i>
Wearing apparel—Making, etc.	6	—	—	—	—	—
Artificial flowers	1	—	—	—	—	—
Fuses	1	—	—	—	—	—

## Riding Establishments Act, 1964

It is the duty of the local authority to licence persons keeping a riding establishment. Before issuing a licence the Authority has to be satisfied as to the suitability of the person to carry on this type of business and the general condition of the stables and equipment must be of a reasonable standard. The horses are inspected for condition and suitability for their purpose by the Council's veterinary officer before the granting of a licence. One establishment was licensed at the end of the year.



## Pet Animals Act 1951

2 pet shops are licenced under this Act which controls primarily the conditions under which animals are kept. Both premises were maintained in a satisfactory condition.

## Animal Boarding Establishments Act, 1963.

This Act provides that no person shall keep a boarding establishment for animals except under a licence granted by the Council. Section I of the Act prescribes the conditions for granting a licence. These generally have regard to the welfare of the animals and 3 premises are licensed. Another function of these establishments, in view of the proximity of London Airport, is as quarantine kennels for dogs imported through the Airport.

## Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.

Most of the infestations by rats are of a minor nature. A frequent source of infestation is from rats nesting along the banks of the river Thames, ditches and streams. It is the Council's policy to provide a free service for the eradication of rats and mice at domestic premises and a small charge is made for treatment of business premises.

A full treatment of all sewers was carried out which resulted in the complete elimination of rats from this habitat.

								<i>Type of Property</i>	
								<i>Non- Agricultural</i>	<i>Agricultural</i>
Number of properties in district	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	23,673	47
Total number of properties inspected following notification	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	499	9
Number infested by									
(i) rats	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	227	9
(ii) mice	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	192	—
Total number of properties inspected for rats and mice for reasons other than notification	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,736	—
Number infested by									
(i) rats	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	36	—
(ii) mice	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10	—



